



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Spokane Veterans Home • 222 E 5th • Spokane, WA 99202-0538

October 6, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We have received confirmation that two of our Veterans Home team members have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Since July 21, 2021, thirty-three Residents and twenty-three staff have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We are working closely with the Spokane Regional Health District, Centers for Disease Control, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

We will continue the testing of all residents every 3-5 days for 14 days and will screen and monitor for symptoms regularly. Due to the increased rates in Spokane County, staff are tested twice a week and are also paying close attention to whether they have any symptoms, including the presence of a fever. As part of our ongoing screening process, all staff are screened upon arrival at work each day. This process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present and a temperature check. In addition, staff are asked to report any symptoms that occur after coming to work.

Following the guidance from The Department of Health the following interventions will be put in place for two weeks:

Activities and Visitors

In accordance with recommendations from the Spokane Regional Health District, indoor visitation, outdoor visitation, and visiting volunteers are temporarily suspended. We suggest scheduling window visits and encouraging families who are eligible for compassionate care visits to schedule virtual visits. Please contact Jeanette, Nikki or Eric in Recreation Therapy at (509) 688-9209 or (509) 221-0799 to make these arrangements.

Dietary

Our meal service has been restructured with our residents receiving and eating meals in their rooms. Ancillary staff have been tasked to help assure that the meal trays are delivered timely.

Facility Maintenance

Our Housekeeping, Maintenance and Laundry departments have also stepped up in assuring that our facility, equipment and linen are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections of all of the most commonly touched surfaces within the building along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide.

VACCINE INFORMATION

As a part of our continued efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we continue to offer vaccinations for staff and residents who wish to receive the vaccine. We encourage all residents, staff, and community members who are able and eligible to be vaccinated to consider getting vaccinated for COVID-19. If you are interested in receiving a vaccine and would like more information about our upcoming Vaccine Clinics, please call (509) 344-5079 or (509) 319-5083.

In an effort to provide information as quickly and accurately as possible, we have developed a website to provide information to families and resident representatives, <https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick McNabb', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patrick McNabb
Administrator